

F1
at least one database, performing clustering and analysis, searching for orthologs, or a combination thereof.

Please amend claim 66 as follows:

F2
66. (Amended Once) The oligonucleotide of claim 55 wherein said further nucleic acids having secondary structures corresponding to said descriptor elements are identified by searching at least one database, performing clustering analysis, searching for orthologs, or a combination thereof.

REMARKS

Claims 27-29, 35-41, and 43-67 are pending. Claims 50 and 66 have been amended.

As requested by the office action, a substitute specification has been provided. No new matter has been introduced in the substitute specification. Figures 3, 4, 5A, and 5B were objected to for allegedly containing new matter. The figures have been amended to remove the alleged new matter as suggested by the office action. No new matter was entered into the drawings.

I. Oath and Declaration

The office action alleges that the oath/declaration is defective because the inventor Ranga Sampath allegedly changed his address and citizenship without initialing the changes and that John McNeil allegedly did not sign his full name. Applicants have supplied a new oath and declaration that renders these objections moot. Although the rejection is made moot by the new submission, applicants respectfully disagree that John McNeil's oath/declaration is defective. In the oath/declaration, Mr. McNeil's address and citizenship are correct and it is clearly accompanied by his legal signature. In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully request that the objection to the Oath and Declaration be withdrawn.